



**25TH SAD COMMEMORATION OF ROE V. WADE -  
MAJOR COMMITMENT REQUIRED BY ALL PRO-LIFERS**

**YOU ARE NEEDED!!!**

NKRTL, Cincinnati Right to Life and many other local Pro-Life organizations are co-sponsoring the 25th Memorial anniversary of the tragic Supreme Court abortion decisions of 1973, to be held at **Music Hall on Wed., Jan. 21, 1997, 7:00 p.m.**

The hour long program will feature several speakers and the **Roger B. Williams** as we give an enthusiastic sendoff to multiple buses filled with Pro-Life supporters directly from there for Washington, DC to attend the annual **March for Life** on 22nd.

Coordination for the buses is being handled by the **Catholic Diocese of Cincinnati Pro-Life Commission**. Call **Karen Riegler at 283-6290**.

We are asking everyone to collect little shoes to represent the babies who will never wear them. They will be placed in a pile at Music Hall that night, and given locally to the needy.

This function is free, and open to the public. It is going to take a lot of people to fill Music Hall on Jan. 21st - 3500 seats! Please get the word out through your organizations, family and friends. **Surely, we can watch one hour with H**

**A BLESSED CHRISTMAS TO ALL**

The Board of Directors of NKRTL wishes a blessed Christmas to everyone — particularly to all of those sacrificial Pro-Lifers who during the past year, and for many years, have prayed, picketed, published, lobbied, litigated, persuaded, donated, collected signatures, proofread the ad, sold the Christmas cards and the Mother's Day roses, collated, printed and distributed the Newsletter, and done the thousand jobs without whose volunteering hands the organization simply could not exist. We particularly honor **Mark Kloeker, Lois**

**Grady, Cathy Smith, Tuesday Hanavan, Anne Clarke, Mary Jean Miller, Jim O'Neil, Ruth Higdon, Agnes Sullivan Grace Dillon, Dorothy Grothaus, Fr. Robert Klein, Margie Long, Colleen Goetz and Mariellen Rehtin**, who give us one day a month or one day a week as volunteers to staff the NKRTL office on Scott Street opposite the public library from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Please call the office (431-6380) and volunteer your services with our beautiful and fantastic **office manager, Marian Scharold**. There are so many jobs to be done, and much more room in the vineyard for additional laborers.

How about doing your Christmas shopping at NKRTL's office, and giving a gift of life, a gift for eternity, a subscription to NKRTL, and some of the Pro-Life books and other materials in our office? You

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could not spend your money better, nor do a better favor for that loved one on your gift list.

In His name, we ask!

## **WITNESS: THE NECESSITY FOR, THE SUFFERING OF, AND THE REWARDS OF!**

Our regular 10 a.m. Saturday morning prayer group at the **Planned Parenthood** abortion center on Auburn Ave. in Cincinnati was exposed to 2 happenings, from the sublime to the ridiculous. In addition to the usual mixed reviews we receive from passing motorists, some who honk their horn and give us a thumbs up symbol of support, and others who scream obscenities out of their car windows and give us a less congratulatory form of salute, we experienced two unusual occurrences on 6/28/97.

First, a large group of people arrived with notebooks in hand. They rejected our offer of Pro-Life information, and advised us that they were not there at the abortion chamber "for that." When we inquired why they were there, they indicated they had come for a seminar on "Child Abuse"! They certainly picked the right place! The very perversity of the situation gives concrete understanding to the phrase "spiritual blindness"!

Later, a beautiful young black woman was walking by the place with her pretty young daughter, about 4 years old. She stopped and hugged our members and blessed us and thanked us for being there.

Turning with sincere sadness towards the killing building, she prayerfully requested "May God forgive those murderers!"

And so, for all the pain and condemnation that go with "standing up," the Lord frequently provides his own "kiss" by such a touching and

rewarding experience.

The same thing happened as **more than 50 Pro-Life pickets of Northern Kentucky Right to Life members, Notre Dame Academy alumnae and parents**, sadly picketed the NDA Commencement in June at St. Agnes Church in Ft. Wright, Ky., because of the obscene abomination of the NDA Administration honoring at its Commencement Address the pro-abortion Mayor of Cincinnati, Roxanne Qualls. As we reported in the last Newsletter, there was a mixed reception that evening, with some of the parents being congratulatory of us, while most were either ignorant of what was going on or apathetic or critical of us.

But the Lord again provided a "kiss." The next day, **NKRTL President Robert C. Cetrulo** received a phone call at his office from a father of a graduate who indicated that he was confused, having seen our picket signs, but not understanding why we were picketing a Catholic school. When Mr. Cetrulo explained the circumstances to him (Qualls' pro-abortion voting record and her public statements), the

fact that for weeks in advance NDA parents and NKRTL members had written (unsuccessfully) to the **NDA principal, Sr. Rita**, and to **Covington Bishop Robert Muench**, and to the **Covington Diocesan Pro-Life Commission**, requesting Qualls' cancellation, this parent indicated that he was about to cry, due to his own shame for not having been better informed, and for not being out on the sidewalk publicly picketing with us. He immediately joined NKRTL and indicated that he would thereafter be an activist, which he now understood to be the individual obligation of indeed everyone.

At the risk of being accused of self praise, we would point out that **the word "witness" comes from the Greek word "martyr" which is defined as "one who sacrifices his life for something of great value for the sake of principle."** The best example of course is Jesus Christ, and then of course his Mother, Mary, who stood strongly and silently confronting the evil and ridicule of Calvary. They also were not successful in persuading everyone, and indeed were thought by the majority to be foolish and objects of scorn. As St. Paul tells us, God chooses to involve each of us in his ongoing work of redemption, which was not completed by the death of Jesus Christ: "I rejoice now in the sufferings I bear for your sake; and what is lacking of the sufferings of Christ, I fill up in my flesh for His body which is the Church." Colossians 1:24

Worthy of reflections are the concluding words of the address by **Bishop Fabian Bruskewitz** at the Human Life International 16<sup>th</sup> Annual World Conference in April in Minneapolis: "A wise man once said that when we appear before the judgment seat of Jesus Christ, He will look at us very carefully and ask, '**Where are your scars?**' **If we respond we have no scars, He will then reproach us and say, 'Was there nothing worth fighting for?'**

**"I believe, my dear friends, there is something worth fighting for. The cause of life is worth fighting for. The cause of Christ is worth fighting for. Let us see to our duties and with resolution, determination and defiance, go forward so that at the end, we can show to Christ our scars."**

## THE WITNESS OF THE CROSS(ES) CONTINUES

That marvelous and effective witness, calling our brothers and sisters back to the reality of the destruction of 4000 of our

unborn brothers and sisters each day in the United States through abortion, continued in October in Corbin, Ky. at the parish of **Fr. Roger Arnsparger**, long-time NKRTL member and past chairman in October of our Annual Celebration of Life.

"Sacred Heart Catholic Church Uses 'Cemetery' to Put Face on Numbers," read the front page headlines of *The Corbin News Journal*, which noted that travelers "cannot help but notice ... the silent memorial which bears more than a little resemblance to Arlington National Cemetery."

"We hope that those seeing these crosses will feel a sadness for our country in letting 4000+ babies be killed each day; a sadness and then a hope for doctors and health care workers, for mothers, and fathers and all who are harmfully affected by abortion; that hearts and minds will be changed to stop the abortions by LAW and deed," said Fr. Arnsparger. "We hope that many who may be thinking of an abortion will change their minds by seeing these crosses and let us help them bring their babies to birth. We hope that those who may have had an abortion will go to their pastors and be reconciled to the Lord, freed from the guilt they carry and reunited with the Church. Even though we believe that abortion is a wrong act, none of us are going to throw the first stone. We are going to be here to help."

### The Effectiveness of True Christ-Like Teaching and Preaching

A sampling of the effectiveness of this project, shown by the immediate responses, follows:

"I am a Baptist. I came upon the display of the crosses at your Church by surprise. I was overtaken with emotion. I started to cry and had to pull my car over to compose myself. I want to thank your church for doing this. All the hours and work of love which must have gone into this project are well worth it."

"I am writing to thank you for your visual statement of crosses symbolizing the tragedy of legalized abortion in the United States. I congratulate the Catholic Church and its

Although the committee was chaired by a strong pro-abortionist, **Sen. Ernesto Scorsone (D)** of Lexington, the majority of the committee members were Pro-Life and evidenced their strong feelings in that respect. Moreover, **Sen. Pres. Larry Saunders (D)** of Louisville, has received a commitment from Sen. Scorsone that bills will be given fair

'Respect Life Month.' As a Christian family physician, I agree with the sanctity of Human Life. I appreciated your stand and comments in the News Journal. I encourage you and your Church to keep up the good work!"

### NKRTL BOARD MEMBER ROBERT D. HOFACRE, CPA

Another NKRTL Board member, from another walk of life, who makes reliable and regular ongoing contributions to the Pro-Life Movement in No. Ky. is Robert D. Hofacre, CPA. Bob is a graduate of Notre Dame University and a self-employed CPA with offices in Ft. Wright, Ky., who not only serves as our Board member, but also handles our books and accounting.

Bob freely gives of his time and professional talents not only to NKRTL, but also to the Serra Club, the Covington Rotary, his Church, and other organizations. He is always ready with steady and unwavering counsel.

He and his wife Bette have 3 sons, 2 daughters and 1 grandson. When time permits from his practice, and his civic and charitable activities, he likes to read, with particular emphasis on professional, religious and political publications, as well as travel and play golf.

Even a CPA like Bob would find it difficult to "account" for all his hours of service contributed to the Pro-Life Movement!

## KENTUCKY INTERIM JUDICIARY COMMITTEE CONDUCTS HEARINGS ON RESTRICTIVE ABORTION LEGISLATION

**NKRTL Pres. Robert C. Cetrulo** was one of many Pro-Life witnesses who testified in October at the hearings conducted in Frankfort by the Joint Interim Senate/House Judiciary Committee on restrictive abortion legislation. The pending bills included (1) the Woman's Right to Know Bill (which provides a 24 hour waiting period and gives the information to the pregnant woman of the development of the unborn child, and of alternatives to abortion); (2) legislation to prohibit the Partial Birth Abortion, a procedure by which the child is 4/5 delivered before the skull, still in the womb, is punctured and the brain sucked out; (3) a bill to require abortion clinics to meet the same medical standards of cleanliness and safety as other surgical centers; and (4) a Fetal Homicide bill (drafted by Cetrulo) which would criminalize the killing of the unborn child through violent acts of third parties not in the abortion context.

There were of course the usual contingent of pro-death witnesses, opposing all of this legislation, demonstrating that they are indeed not "pro-choice," but pro-death.

hearing, and voted upon in the upcoming session of the General Assembly which begins in January. Stay tuned. We will need aggressive action at that point to guarantee that these bills get to the floor for a public vote, which, as you know, has been denied in prior years by bottling them up in committee.

## PRO-LIFE LEGISLATION AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL

Recent results on Pro-Life initiatives in the U.S. Congress represent a mixed bag:

-- Pro-aborts in the U.S. Senate lost in their effort to repeal a current law that **prohibits the performance of privately funded abortions at U.S. military medical facilities** (except to save the life of the Mother or in case of rape or incest). They also lost in their efforts to change a policy that has been in effect for 14 years, under which federal employees health insurance plans may not cover abortion (except to save the life of the Mother, or in the case of rape or incest). Both Ky. Senators, **Wendell Ford (D)** and **Mitch McConnell (R)** voted Pro-Life.

-- The **Istook/Manzullo Amendment to Title X** of the Labor/Health and Human Services/Education Appropriations bill would have required parents to be notified before a minor could receive contraceptive abortion causing drugs or devices from a federally funded agency. The Amendment was gutted by an Amendment authored by pro-aborts in the House.

-- The Senate voted down 60 - 38 an Amendment by Pro-Life **Sen. Dan Coats (R)** of Indiana to **prohibit taxpayer funding of experimentation on fetal tissue derived from babies killed by induced abortion.**

-- In the House, by a vote of 234 - 191, there was added tougher anti-abortion language to a pending foreign aid bill. The Amendment **bans U.S. funding of any international organization (such as Planned Parenthood) that directly or indirectly advocates abortion**, except in cases of rape, incest or when the life of the Mother is at stake.

-- The House also joined with Senate in **retaining the 1995 ban on abortions at military medical facilities**, described above. The entire Ky. membership in the House, including our representative **Jim Bunning (R)** of Southgate, voted Pro-Life, with the exception of Lexington's representative, **Scotty Baesler (D)**. Baesler, who is opposing Bunning for the vacated U.S. Senate seat of Wendell Ford, cast his usual pro-abortion vote.

-- The Senate passed, 99 - 0, a bill to **insure that federal funds (Medicare or Medicaid) are not used to help doctors kill terminally ill patients** - even if courts establish a "right" to euthanasia. This was also passed by the House, 398 - 16.

-- Partial Birth Abortion Ban again sailed easily through both chambers, winning 295 - 136 in the House, which is more than 2/3 and can withstand a Presidential veto, and winning 64 - 36 in the Senate (3 short of what's necessary to override a Presidential veto). Our reliable abortion **President Bill Clinton** again vetoed the bill, so there will be a serious fight in the Senate to try to override this heinous crime. Even the pro-abort **American Medical Association** agreed that the Partial Birth Abortion was unnecessary and dangerous to the Mother, and opposes it, and many of the pro-aborts in Congress even abandoned the pro-abort side this time, but not Clinton! Letters are needed to Sens. Ford and McConnell, both of whom voted Pro-Life, to stand firm, and to encourage their colleagues to prohibit this barbarous infanticide.

**"Many people are very, very concerned with the children of India, with the children of Africa, where quite a few die of hunger, and so on. Many people are also concerned about all the violence in this great country of**

**-- The Senate defeated the disastrous McCain-Feingold bill** which would have placed severe restrictions on the right of citizens' groups such as right to life groups, to communicate with the public regarding the positions and voting records of office holders and office seekers, whether before elections or at any other time.

This effort to violate the First Amendment freedom of speech of all citizens was euphemistically mischaracterized as "election reform," taking advantage of the obvious scandals that do exist with large money pouring into political campaigns, to the disgust of the public. The impact, however, would have been to hit the "little persons," such as the right to life questionnaires of candidates, and subject them to the possibility of criminal prosecution - an issue to which all Americans should be appropriately sensitive.

This very issue is one of the issues involved in the present legal persecution of NKRTL in Kentucky, now pending before the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit in Cincinnati. In fact, "issue advocacy," such as is engaged in by most Pro-Life organizations, was specifically upheld by the Supreme Court in a 1976 case, involving non-profit corporations, specifically there Massachusetts Citizens for Life, and is a constant burr under the saddle of the pro-abort "thought police."

Please send congratulatory notes to **Sen. Mitch McConnell (R)**, our U.S. Senator from Kentucky who led the fight against this outrageous effort to muzzle Pro-Lifers and other grass-roots moral issue organizations in the United States.

## MOTHER TERESA - A VOICE FOR THE UNBORN AS WELL AS THE POOR

A strong voice for the unborn and other powerless was lost with the September death of Mother Teresa. Revered as she is by many for her unselfish love and devotion to the destitute and dying, many tend to forget (particularly the pro-aborts who do so willingly) her strong and uncompromising priority advocacy for the defense of innocent unborn life.

Speaking at the 1994 National Prayer Breakfast in Washington, DC, Mother Teresa said, **"I feel that the greatest destroyer of peace today is abortion, because it is a war against the child - a direct killing of the innocent child - murder by the mother herself. And if we accept that a mother can kill ever her own child, how can we tell other people not to kill one another? ...Any country that accepts abortion is not teaching the people to love, but to use any violence to get what they want.**

the United States.

These concerns are very good. But often these same people are not concerned with the millions who are being killed by the deliberate decision of their own mothers.

**And this is what is the greatest destroyer of peace today: abortion, which brings people to such blindness.”**

Interestingly enough, the only persons in attendance who failed to join in the overwhelming standing ovation at Mother Teresa's speech were **Pres. and Mrs. Clinton and Vice-Pres. and Mrs. Gore.**

**Response of the Secular World**

Mother Teresa died the same week as Princess Diana of England. The vast majority of the secular media of course gave overwhelmingly more coverage and effusive sadness to Diana's death, comparing her to Mother Teresa and even giving Diana first billing. In the interest of balance and sanity, we publish some of the thoughtful remarks of Catholic columnist **Frank Morris** in *The Wanderer*:

“A person's nervous breakdown can be indicated by extravagant and irrational language and behavior. Applying that to what surrounded the death of the former wife of the British royal heir, it can be concluded that culture itself is having a nervous breakdown. ...

“It is clear that all of this goes beyond ordinary effusiveness concerning a tragic death of a celebrity. It approached a process of apotheosis — the proclamation of divinity. ... Good deeds seem so much more attractive when done by the glamorous and the good-looking. Indeed, celebrities have become gurus and guides for consciences, and if their causes are popular, they are taken as modern saints and doctors. Let them try, however, to espouse unpopular causes or teach unpopular truths and not even their stardom will earn them canonization. ...

“Had, for example, Diana espoused the pro-life movement, or the heroism of motherhood as fully satisfying for a woman in itself (apparently it was not for her) — would she have undergone the apotheosis she has? ...Believe me, I am not trying to denigrate or even belittle the princess. Had she been exposed to other values and principles she might have escaped what she really was — a child of her time, neither better nor worse than most such. ...

“There is so much cultural sickness revealed in all of this that perhaps more and more will the world come to realize that it needs a cure. If a new re-evangelization succeeds in the West, it might be because the West aroused itself from a self-deception that all is well with it.”

**Response of the Demonic**

In the U.S. House of Representatives, an adamant pro-abort minority effectively thwarted a Resolution honoring Mother Teresa, because it contained the word “abortion”!

And the Disney-owned American Broadcasting Company descended to a new low in its news coverage when it commissioned British Marxist journalist **Christopher Hitchens** to serve as commentator during the funeral Mass of the widely-loved “Saint of the gutters.”

Incredibly, Hitchens blasted her and accused her of associating with “the wealthiest of the wealthy,” “she spent time with the idle rich,” she “practiced pseudo-humility and mock modesty” and “claimed immunity from criticism, which she enjoyed far too long.”

Even the secular journalist **Peter Jennings**, no friend of the Pro-Life Movement or the Catholic Church, was finally embarrassed to the point where he had to cut in and cut off Hitchens, observing “this funeral service may not be the right occasion for debate.”

Make no mistake, the Evil One truly salivates when confronted with true goodness!

**THE PAIN OF BROKEN TRUST**

In a recent dramatic story published in the newsletter of **Project Nehemiah**, which conducts sidewalk counseling in front of the Cincinnati abortion clinics, there was reported a sad situation. A Christian lady who after much prayer had decided she could no longer stand aside while thousands of innocent human beings were being killed by abortion, decided that she would join Project Nehemiah in front of the abortion clinic. It was there that she first learned that her own obstetrician was a paid killer. After the initial shock and disappointment subsided, she went to see him and told him how terribly hurt she was and how she felt betrayed by him and that she needed to find another doctor.

**Does Your Doctor Kill Babies?**

Because the abortionists do not advertise their abortion practice, for the obvious fear of losing patients, and because we feel that every patient should have the right to determine that that is the kind of physician to whom they would want to entrust their lives and those of their unborn children, we publish herewith the abortionists known to be active in this community.

**Women's Med Center**

**Martin Haskell**

Office:  
3219 Jefferson Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45220

Home:  
6650 Given Rd.  
Cincinnati, OH 45243

**Houston Lumpkin**

2123 Auburn Ave., Ste. 331  
Cincinnati, OH 45219

9435 Sheralee Ln.  
Cincinnati, OH 45231

**M. Paul Hibbert**

240 Park Ave.  
Hamilton, OH 45013

1441 Helma Ave.  
Hamilton, OH 45013

**Planned Parenthood**

**Norman Matthews**

71 E. Hollister  
Cincinnati, OH 45219

2509 Observatory Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45208

**Roslyn Kade**

71 E. Hollister  
Cincinnati, OH 45219

4341 Ashley Meadow Ct.  
Cincinnati, OH 45227

**William Egherman**

2314 Auburn Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45219

2033 Calvin Cliff  
Cincinnati, OH 45206

**Cincinnati Women's Services**

**Walter T. Bowers II**

2328 Auburn Ave., Ste. 17  
Cincinnati, OH 45219

124 LaFayette Ln.  
Cincinnati, OH 45220

While we obviously must pray that these physicians repent of their terrible sins, and convert their God-given talents to nurturing life rather than taking it, in the meantime, we suggest that their Pro-Life patients may well want to seek other physicians and advise these people of their reasons for terminating their services. **All Pro-Life people might well want to ask their own doctors “Do you kill babies?”**

## “SELECTIVE HEARING” IS THE EXPLANATION FOR CHRISTIANS SITTING ON THE SIDELINES DURING THIS CULTURAL WAR OF ABORTION

The preacher at the most recent **Helpers of God's Precious Infants Vigil Mass at the Holy Name Church in Cincinnati, Ohio** (celebrated on the second Saturday of every month at 8:00 a.m., followed by a peaceful prayer procession to the abortion clinic) was given by **Fr. Greg Konerman, Associate Pastor of St. Dominic Church, Delhi.**

He touched upon what most in the Pro-Life Movement have now come to recognize as perhaps *the* major contributant to the ongoing holocaust of abortion — the inactivity of many Christians who have allowed themselves to remain deaf to the clear teaching of the Church on this most fundamental issue.

His remarks also remind us of the uncomfortable corollary, that it is our obligation, imperfect sinners that we all are, to remind our brothers and sisters of this crucial and individual obligation of each of us or, in the alternative, to suffer with them God's punishment for their inaction and our failure to remind them (“Watchmen on the Wall” - Ezekiel 33:8-10).

### Fr. Konerman's Homily

“Blest are they who hear the word of God ... and keep it!” (Luke 11:28)

Sounds simple enough, doesn't it?! ... Two steps to holiness: first, to hear the word of God, ... and secondly, to keep it!

But, alas! ... We know that neither of the two steps is all that easy! ... We also know that the second step follows the first one! ... That first one, - hearing the word of God is crucial! ... It must come first!

And, much of our difficulty with that first step seems due to the fact that, - as part of our sinful nature - we are all inclined to selective listening!

That is, - we tend to hear the words of the Gospel of Christ that we want to hear, ... but not to hear the words that challenge us! ... or the words that bring us face to face with sacrifice and suffering! ... or the words which tell us that we must make difficult changes in our lives!

'Selective listening' is such a great temptation because it allows us to avoid the hard stuff! ... It allows us to feel 'comfortable' with ourselves! ... Trouble is, - it prevents us from knowing the 'whole story'! ... It prevents us from knowing the truth! ... Due to our 'selective listening', the word of God becomes distorted, ... and it then ceases to be His word, ... and becomes our word!

Now, - as I said, - all of us are prone to this 'selective listening', to some degree! ... None of us has 'perfect hearing' when it comes to the word of God! ... Nevertheless, some of us are doing better than others, in this regard! ... And so, - even while we struggle with our own sins in this area, - with our own failures at hearing - we must also strive to help those who appear to be mostly or totally deaf to the word of God! ... And with regard to the issue of abortion, so many appear to be so very deaf!

It is obvious that there is a tremendous amount of 'selected listening' going on, - when it comes to the words of God which address the issue of reverence for human life! ...

So many people we know, ... even people we are close to, ... even, - unbelievable as it seems - some of our own fellow Catholics! - just are not hearing the Gospel of Life when it addresses the tough issues, - of sexuality, ... and contraception ... and abortion, ... and euthanasia. ... So many people, - who are intelligent, and educated, and appear to comprehend most everything else! - just seem to 'tune out' the word of God when it pertains to those issues!

And that, of course, presents a huge challenge to those of us who have heard the 'words of life', in the Gospel of Christ! ... We must do all that we can to revive the listening skills of those deaf ones!! ... In order to get them to begin listening to the Gospel of Life we must turn up the volume! ... We must turn up the 'volume' of our public discourse, ... the 'volume' of our political actions, ... the 'volume' of our discussions with our neighbors and co-workers, ... and the 'volume' of our prayer!

We who have heard the 'word of God' must help others to hear it! ... By cherishing 'the word' ourselves, ... and by 'keeping it' - putting it into practice each day - we will, by the grace of God, improve the hearing of many of our fellow citizens!

And in these efforts, let us be inspired by the example of our Blessed Mother, - who heard and kept the word of God perfectly! ... As we honor her this morning, - under her title, 'Pillar of Faith' - we pray through her intercession that each of us will faithfully hear the Gospel of Life! ... courageously keep the Gospel of Life! ... and boldly proclaim that Gospel of Life! ... and thus rouse our culture from its deafness!!"

Our response: "Amen" (so be it!)

## THOUGHTS OF A TRUE PRO-LIFE CLERGYMAN

With great frequency, we hear from multiple clergymen that they are "Pro-Life," although they never preach on the subject, never attend any event, and in general literally do nothing! Many, when challenged, protest the alleged futility of action, as a cover for their guilty consciences. That particular cop-out is laid to rest by the remarks of **Fr. Daniel J. Saner, Pastor of St. Augustine in Augusta, Ky.**, delivered at a Right to Life Mass he celebrated for NKRTL and others at his church on July 30, 1997:

### "We Cannot Help Speaking"

I was thinking — What good does it do???

-- Haven't you asked that question a thousand times?

-- Haven't others asked you?

All this Right to Life work - what good.

What good does it do:

-- These marches - Washington/Frankfort

-- being at clinics

-- participating in the Celebration for Life at the Drawbridge

What good does standing up against friends do when they avow pro-abort candidates and issues

What difference does my one voice make?

What consequence is one more letter?

What gain in arguing with one more acquaintance?

Since '73 when court legalized the destruction of the innocent unborn, some gains have been made - but only small ones

Then I realized this kind of thinking is dangerous

25,000 Americans died in our Revolutionary War

1,000s more maimed.

--couldn't each of them have asked what difference their individual death made, their sacrifice made?

--And if each had concluded that his death didn't mean much we would not be an independent nation today.  
 And I thought of WWII where ½ million Americans died --couldn't any of those killed, or any of the thousand others maimed - have asked 'what difference?'"

--And if each had excused himself we'd all be speaking German and living in a Nazi state.  
 So it seems to me that it's always a little dangerous to ask  
 What difference my actions make...  
 What good my involvement does.  
 Because none of us are ever able to see the whole picture.  
 Then I began to wonder just how people of faith look at this question. I came on our 1<sup>st</sup> reading from Acts.  
 --Right after the coming of the Holy Spirit,  
 --Peter & John are preaching and both were jailed,  
 --The next day they are brought before the Jewish authority who tells them they are not to speak the name of Jesus or teach about Him. — Simple enough!  
 Now Peter & John could have said,  
 Oh, what good will it do? What difference will our voice make? What's the use of fighting the well-established Jewish authority?  
 But no — that's not their thinking --they answer,  
 'Judge for yourself whether it is right in God's sight  
 For us to obey you rather than God.'  
 What an insight into godly thinking.  
 --The question is not what good/difference;  
 --The question is do we obey God and speak His truth or not.  
 And Peter & John add:  
 'Surely we cannot help speaking of what we have heard and seen.'  
 Once you and I have come to understand that every human being is made in God's image  
 Once you and I have come to understand the horror of abortion -  
 Then we cannot help speaking ... and doing and acting and witnessing.  
 From the viewpoint of Faith, it is never a question of what good it'll do  
 --what difference it'll make,  
 It is always a question of speaking of what we have heard and seen and have come to believe.  
 It is always a question of being called to obey God, rather than man.  
 And that's why the problem will never go away — because godly people of Faith will speak.  
 In Oct. Of '70 Pope Paul VI canonized 40 martyrs of England & Wales.  
 --These were priests, religious and lay who stood strong in the Faith at the time of Henry VIII's break from Rome.  
 When Henry declared himself head of the Church of England, 2 notables stood against him:  
 Thomas More, a lawyer \ martyr  
 John Fischer, a bishop / 1539.  
 After that time, hatred for the church/priests/the Mass grew very strong.  
 This was the period when priests said Mass in homes secretly, when they hid in secret hiding places, when to be caught as a Catholic meant imprisonment, torture, death.  
 One of the 40 martyrs of the time was Margaret Clitherow  
 She had married at 18, was a mother of 2 step-children & had 2 of her own.  
 --By all accounts she was a beautiful young woman with long golden hair and a charming personality.

Margaret was not Catholic.  
 --But one day she met a priest staying at one of the Catholic homes  
 --She became interested in the Catholic Faith, begged to be instructed, became a devout Catholic.  
 Margaret taught the Faith to her children and secretly arranged for priests to stay in her home.  
 --The priests said Mass & gave the sacraments.  
 --Local Catholics often gathered at her house for secret midnight Mass.  
 Her husband (John) was nominally Catholic, but politically ambitious.  
 --He attended Protestant services to be seen.  
 This was the 1580's and the English government became even more fanatical in their attempt to stamp out Catholicism.  
 John Clitherow was ordered to appear for questioning — he was let off lightly — he had been seen at Protestant services  
 With Margaret, it was a different story.  
 Soldiers searched the house — found no priests.  
 --They turned on the children with threats of beating.  
 One little, terrified neighbor boy confessed to seeing priests in the house.  
 --He showed them the hiding place for priests — They found a chalice and vestments.  
 --That was enough. A judge passed sentence quickly:  
 'Margaret Clitherow, you must return from whence you came, and there in the lowest part of the prison be stripped naked, laid down, your back upon the ground your hands and feet tied to posts, a sharp stone under your back and weights laid upon you and be pressed to death.'  
 On Friday, March 25, 1586 the soldiers took her from prison at 8:00 a.m.  
 The usual executioners refused to touch this case — 4 beggars were hired.  
 She was ordered to confess to treason.  
 --She answered: 'No, I die for the love of my Lord Jesus.'  
 Quietly she lay down upon the floor.  
 ✓A sharp stone (size of a man's fists) was placed under her back  
 ✓The 4 beggars put a large door on her and began stacking on heavy weights.  
 ✓Her only whisper was "Jesus, have mercy on me.' Over & over.  
 ✓Her excruciating agony lasted 15 min. and all was quiet.  
 Before her death she smuggled out of prison 2 things:  
 --one was her bonnet for her husband, a symbol of her wifely duty to him.  
 --And to Anne her daughter, she sent her shoes with a note which said simply:  
 'Walk in these' --And her children did.  
 ✓Her daughter became a nun. ✓Her 2 sons became priests.  
 What good does it all do? What difference does it all make?  
 No, that's not the question the saints of God ever asked.  
 The question is should we obey God or man?  
 If we have come to see the truth, surely we cannot help speaking of what we have come to believe.  
 That's what the Apostles Peter & John say.  
 Godly men & women of all ages have chosen to obey God and to be His faithful witnesses against this world.  
 Holy men & women have always paid a price for their belief.  
 I like to think that the saints of the past have given us the gift of their shoes and the challenge 'Walk in these.'

## “HIS TRUTH KEEPS MARCHING ON”

This 1998 theme of **March for Life**, marvelous organization of **Nellie Gray** which sponsors the massive march on Washington every Jan. 22<sup>nd</sup>, will again continue to teach the simple principle that “each human being is a natural person, existing at fertilization, and is vested with a personal right to life endowed by Our Creator; that abortion is murder and although it is now decriminalized it can never be ‘legal’; and that ‘as we learned from the Nuremberg Trials, no one and no government has the capacity in the law of God or man intentionally to kill even one innocent born or preborn human person. **No Exceptions! No Compromise!**”

Since Jan. 22, 1973, IT HAS BEEN LEGAL TO KILL THE UNBORN CHILD AT ANY TIME UP TO BIRTH, BY ANY METHOD AND FOR ANY REASON WHATSOEVER. In 25 years, over 35 million American children (almost 3 times the number of victims of the Nazi Holocaust), people like you have endured the excruciating pain of being cut to pieces by a curette, ripped apart by a suction tube, poisoned and burned by a high concentration of salt, or surgically removed and allowed to die in a steel bedpan.

Not everyone is able to go to Washington. Everyone can make a public statement against abortion by placing his name in the NKRTL newspaper ad. On the annual March for Life 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the infamous Supreme Court decision, you are requested to MAKE YOUR PUBLIC STATEMENT AGAINST ABORTION BY PLACING YOUR NAME IN THE NKRTL NEWSPAPER AD. This ad will urge the passage of a Human Life Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, an amendment which will declare all children, from the moment of fertilization, as persons entitled to the same protection against murder as the rest of us. Since copies are

given to the President, each member of the U.S. Supreme Court, the 6 Ky. members of the House of Representatives and the 2 U.S. Senators from Ky., your name becomes your statement that abortion must be stopped and that after 25 yrs., you have not given up and you will not give up the struggle to stop the slaughtering of innocent children.

ENCLOSED IS AN ENVELOPE IN WHICH YOU ENCLOSE A LIST OF YOUR NAMES, and donate a small sum of \$2.00 for each name or \$6.00 for a family (for families who would like to list the names of their children, but may be prohibited at the \$2.00 per name, we suggest simply \$6.00 donation for the entire family). In order to cover the cost of the ad, those who are able to do so are encouraged to make a larger donation.

## PRO-LIFE NEWSPAPER AD NEEDS YOUR NAME

In memory of the 35 million American babies who have been destroyed in the last 25 years, please participate in this year's March for Life newspaper ad — RETURN THE ENCLOSED ENVELOPE TODAY! BEAT THE DEADLINE: JAN. 10, 1998, PLEASE SEND YOUR NAME AND CHECK — NOW!!

## IF VICTIMS COULD SIGN!!